

Terry Little has devoted his adult life to improving the DOD acquisition process. He has inspired teamwork and efficiency in many venues, and he has trained the next generation of acquisition managers to continue his legacy. For these and his many other contributions, Americans owe Mr. Little a debt of gratitude for a lifetime of selfless service and for his profound contributions to our Nation and our security. Those of us in the Senate will miss his leadership and contributions. We wish him and his family all the best in the years ahead.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE EXPORT OF ACCELEROMETERS TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS—PM 33

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the provisions of section 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-261), I hereby certify that the export of 36 accelerometers to the People's Republic of China's Ministry of Railways, for use in a railroad track geometry measuring system, is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, and that the material and equipment, including any indirect technical benefit that could be derived from such export, will not measurably improve the missile or space launch capabilities of the People's Republic of China.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 14, 2005.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006,

and for other purposes, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House: Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WICKER, Mr. KINGSTON, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. WALSH, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SABO, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. OBEY.

At 11:46 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 972. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2892. An act to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to remove the limitation on the number of reverse mortgages that may be insured under the FHA mortgage insurance program for such mortgages.

H.R. 3508. An act to authorize improvements in the operation of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4436. An act to provide certain authorities for the Department of State, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4473. An act to reauthorize and amend the Commodity Exchange Act to promote legal certainty, enhance competition, and reduce systemic risk in markets for futures and over-the-counter derivatives, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4508. An act to commend the outstanding efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina by members and employees of the Coast Guard, to provide temporary relief to certain persons affected by such hurricane with respect to certain laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution recognizing Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 335. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 238. Concurrent resolution honoring the victims of the Cambodian genocide that took place from April 1975 to January 1979.

H. Con. Res. 252. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the United States should support democracy, the rule of law, and human rights in the Republic of Nicaragua and work cooperatively with regional and international organizations to bolster Nicaraguan efforts to establish the requisite conditions for free, fair, transparent, and inclusive presidential and legislative elections in 2006.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 335. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

H.R. 327. An act to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 2892. An act to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to remove the limitation on the number of reverse mortgages that may be insured under the FHA mortgage insurance program for such mortgages.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 15, 2005, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1047. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation's past Presidents and their spouses, respectively, to improve circulation of the \$1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4833. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and Enactment of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005" received on December 2, 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4834. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and Enactment of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005" received on December 12, 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4835. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend Act of August 21, 1935 to extend the authorization for the National Park System Advisory Board and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4836. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and Enactment of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4837. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of